

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application.

1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (New) A method of shaping a conical tube made of metal in a tool comprising a first sealing piston, a second sealing piston and a die cavity that has a complex contour including a first cylindrical portion at a first end of the die cavity and a second cylindrical portion at a second end of the die cavity, the method comprising:

inserting the conical tube having a conical shape along an entire length of the tube into the die cavity of the tool such that a first tube end protrudes into the first cylindrical portion of the die cavity and a second tube end protrudes into the second cylindrical portion of the die cavity;

engaging the first tube end with a first sealing piston and pressing the first tube end with the first sealing piston until the first tube end abuts the first cylindrical portion of the die cavity, and engaging the second tube end with a second sealing piston and pressing the second tube end with the second sealing piston until the second tube end abuts the second cylindrical portion of the die cavity, thereby sealing an interior of the conical tube; and

applying pressure to the sealed interior of the conical tube and simultaneously axially compressing the conical tube by one or both of: exerting an axial force on an end face of the first tube end with the first sealing piston, and exerting an axial force on an end face of the second tube end with the second sealing piston;

wherein during the step of applying pressure to the interior space of the conical tube and simultaneously axially compressing the tube, the first tube end is displaced until the first tube end does not protrude into the first cylindrical portion of the

- cavity, the second tube end is displaced until the second tube end does not protrude into the second cylindrical portion of the cavity, or both.
4. (New) The method of claim 3, wherein during the step of applying pressure to the interior space of the conical tube and simultaneously axially compressing the tube, both the first tube end is displaced until the first tube end does not protrude into the first cylindrical portion of the cavity and the second tube end is displaced until the second tube end does not protrude into the second cylindrical portion of the cavity.